Reply of Government.—Noted for consideration with reference to the Act of 1866.

SUBJECT No. 136.

House-building advance.

Mr. K. Krishnamurti Rao, Magadi taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As the house-building advance of one year's pay to low paid Government servants is not enough to cover the cost of even the mere foundation and as borrowing to supplement the advance may deprive them of their other properties also, it is requested that Government may build houses for them and recover the cost in easy instalments.

Reply of Government.—Not feasible. The present rules are sufficiently liberal.

SUBJECT No. 137.

Mussalman co-operative inspectors.

Mr. Mahomed Abbas Khan, Central Mahomedan Association, Bangalore.

Summary of discussion.—A Mahomedan Inspector and Mahomedan Honorary Organisers may be appointed to popularize the advantages of the Co-operative system.

Reply of Government.—If a suitable Mahomedan graduate applies to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, his appointment as a co-operative inspector will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 138.

Account texts in Kannada.

Mr. Kacharkahalli Subbanna, Bangalore taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Except the Taluk Treasury Manual, the other Account text-books are not available in Kannada. These may be translated into Kannada to enable those who do not possess sufficient knowledge of English to pass the examination in Kannada.

Reply of Government.—The Taluk Treasury Manual and the Municipal Account Manual have been translated into Kannada. The question of translating the Mysore Service Regulations and the Mysore Treasury Manual is under consideration.

EXCISE.

(*Nos. 139—142*).

SUBJECT No. 139.

Amendment of Excise Rules.

Mr. D. Srikanta Rao, Devanhalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Excise Rules may be so modified as not to make the contractors liable for the faults of the vendors. The proposer added that the contractor should be held liable only for the payment of Government money, etc., and not for keeping the shop unclean or the vessels untidy and similar acts of the vendors.

Mr. Ramachar supporting the proposition said that the relation between the contractor and the vendor was similar to that between master and servant and that it was not proper to make the former criminally liable for the acts of the latter.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao pointed out that till recently only the contractor was liable and the rules were since

modified so as to make the vendors also liable and that the working of the new law may be tried for some time before attempting to alter it.

Reply of Government.—The Regulation provides sufficient protection. The responsibility of the licensee cannot be eliminated.

SUBJECT No. 140.

Excise shop rent.

Mr. Lingappa, Chitaldrug municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Formerly toddy contractors were allowed to pay the shop-rent of a month by the 10th of the succeeding month. Now they have to pay the shop-rent within the 20th of the same month. If they pay after the 20th and within the close of the month, they have to pay interest. If they do not pay by the end of the month the shop is liable to be re-sold. This has caused great hardship to the contractors. The old rules may be revived.

Reply of Government.—Not feasible.

SUBJECT No. 141.

Payments of excise revenue to inamdars.

Mr. Madappa, Mysore taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Excise Revenue of inam villages has not been paid to inamdars since the year 1897. Though several representations were made in this matter, no action seems to have been taken on the plea that Rule 13 of the rules of 1901 requires to be revised. To collect the amount due to Government from inamdars, coercive measures are adopted. To redress their long-standing grievance Rule 13 may be revised early.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration of Government. Will be expedited.

SUBJECT No. 142.

Leasing out toddy shops.

Messrs. Narayana Setti and Srikantiah, Maddagiri taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Auction sales of toddy shops which are held every year may be abolished, and a system of leasing them out for amounts varying between two fixed limits may be introduced. If this suggestion commends itself, sales may be held once in five years.

Reply of Government.—The experiment of triennial leases now in force in some taluks is under trial.

PUBLIC WORKS.

(*Nos. 143—145*).

SUBJECT No. 143.

Roads.

Messrs. Venkatasubbannachar, Thammiahbhatta and Rama Rao, Tirthahalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As roads have deteriorated, it is prayed that steps may be taken towards restoring them to good condition.

The road between Shimoga and Tirthahalli is in a very bad state. This is due to the use of the traction engine. The Forest Department should be required to contribute towards the repair of the road.

Mr. Channakesaviah.—The 7th to 10th mile section of the Chitaldrug-Holalkere road is now almost impassable.